

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Rejections under 35 USC § 112

Claims 2, 4 and 5 have been amended in an earnest attempt to deal with the clarity issues raised by the Examiner in the Official Action with respect to these claims.

Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Independent claims 1 and 9-11 are amended by this response to more clearly differentiate them from the cited art (Watanabe USP 6,373,213). For support, see for example, paragraphs 0049 and 0050 of the present application.

Claim 1 refers to the feature of "a control device which controls such that the functions of a control member and/or display member that are completely or partially hidden due to movement of said movable panel member are realized on said display screen". The amendment makes it clear that "the control member is a control button to be pressed by a user" and that the "display member displays an operation of the information display apparatus." Since the Examiner reads the recited "control device" on Watanabe's microcomputer (see page 3 of the official action), this clarification to claim 1 distinguishes claim 1 from Watanabe.

Watanabe is a patent family member of EP 1043644 cited in the related art portion of the present application (see paragraph 0004). Watanabe discloses a display panel (D) which has a display screen (G) on a surface thereof which is linearly pulled from a retracted position where the display panel (D) is stowed in an accommodation space (KK) and then is upwardly rotated about a shaft (1) to come to a position that a user can see the display screen (G) of the display panel (D).

Watanabe fails to disclose the feature "a control device which controls such that the functions of a control member and/or display member that are completely or partially hidden due to movement of said movable panel member are realized on said display screen" and that "said control member is a control button to be pressed by a user and said display member displays an operation of the information display apparatus" as claimed.

Claims 9 - 11 are patentable over Watanabe for the same reasons.

Copies of applicant-supplied Information Disclosure Statements are attached to the Official Action. In one of them, H07-266845 is lined out. The undersigned telephoned the Examiner to discuss this point, and ended up speaking with the Examiner's supervisor. Apparently, H07-266845 was lined out because no English language abstract was supplied. An English language abstract of this document is enclosed herewith for consideration by the Examiner.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

Response to Official Action
Dated 10 April 2007
Re: USSN 10/817,482
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July 9, 2007

(Date of Transmission)

Richard Berg

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(Signature)

July 9, 2007

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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